

often pester'd with these over-grown, rapacious *State-Leeches*, in former Times; but for several Years past we have been pretty free from them; the first great VILLARS, Duke of BUCKINGHAM, being the last Minister of that sort in this Kingdom; and I hope, the last we shall ever see here!—I have already presented the Reader with some of those excellent Instructions, which were given him for his Behaviour in that high Station, by that great and good Man Sir *Francis Bacon*, in the Infancy of his Power; and I design very speedily to shew what an ill Use he made of them, in a short Review of his *Life* and *Conduet*; which will farther corroborate what I have said in this Paper, and prove that such an exorbitant Power, as is before described, is prejudicial to the *Liberties* of this Nation; to the Honour and Welfare of a *British* King; and to the true Interest of a MINISTER himself.

D.



N^o 23. *Monday, February 20.*

—Timores *inter* & Iras.

Hor.



THIS is an old established Maxim in Politics, that a true-bred Statesman should have no private Passions; that is, He ought to be a Man of such a sedate, stedd, and determined Temper, that he may not be interrupted, in the Conduct of his Schemes and the Pursuit of his Interest, by those light and sudden Passions, which are apt to agitate and ruffle weak Minds. Nay, some grave Rea-

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soners and Refiners upon this Subject have gone farther, and maintain'd that a *stanch Politician* ought not only to be exempt from Intemperance, Effeminacy, and other common Frailties of human Nature; but should also enfranchise his Mind from the Dominion of what are commonly call'd the nobler Passions; that he should be incapable of Love or Hatred; that he should not suffer himself to be sway'd by any vulgar Notions of Gratitude, Honour or Justice; nor be tempted to desist from the Execution of his Designs by the frail Impulses of Pity and Remorse; that he should have no Regard to Friends, Relations or Benefactors, when it interferes with his private Views; nor resent, as other Men do, the most provoking Injuries or the highest Obligations, when his Interest (that great ruling Principle) instructs him to forget either.

I am not, I confess, *Machiavillian* enough to approve of such Maxims, or to propose them as Lessons, which ought to be follow'd. They have been, God knows, and still are too much practised in most Courts, to stand in need of any Recommendation, or to be discountenanced by any Arguments. Happy, alas! would it be for the World, if all *great Men* wanted any Instructions of this sort; or were backward to consult their own Interest, by sacrificing to it all other Considerations, both of a publick and private Nature!

There is indeed one Rock, which many of the ablest State-Pilots, with all their *dispassionate Indifference*, have not been able to avoid; even though they have been amply forewarn'd, by the calamitous Fate of their Predecessors, to use the utmost Caution and Circumspection to keep clear of it. I mean that *Insolence* or *Impetuosity* of Temper, which Power is apt to beget in great Minds, and commonly ends in Ruin and Disgrace; for Passion and Vehemence tend, more than any thing else, to exasperate and provoke Indignation,

tion, as well as to unbosom the secret Thoughts, and discover those Foibles or ill Designs, which it should be always the Business of a *great Man* to conceal.

When such an *over-bearing Spirit* gets the better of a Man of an honest and worthy Disposition; it is a real Misfortune to the Publick; but when it possesses a corrupt Mind, we ought to congratulate the Society in which it prevails; for Experience teaches us to look on Rage, Choler, and Impatience of Opposition as the last Struggles and Convulsions of an *expiring Minister*.

Some Men are born with this violent, imperious Frame of Mind; which seems to have been the Case of Cardinal WOLSEY; who was naturally a Man of such an arrogant, domineering Temper, that he could not keep it from breaking out in the grossest, personal Insults, even upon his *Royal Master*, who had honoured and aggrandized him with Power and Wealth in the most partial and extravagant Manner; and as his own Interest and most immoderate Ambition could not restrain it, so it occasioned that grievous and ignominious Disgrace, under which he afterwards fell. But there are others, who, being naturally Men of a more placid, courteous and affable Disposition, have been betrayed into the same *Vehemence* and *insolent Behaviour* by a long Run of Power, Prosperity, and Success. Whilst the Sun shone upon them, and the Ship sail'd briskly before the Wind; whilst most of the Passengers approved their Conduct, and flatter'd their Abilities, you could see nothing but Smiles on their Faces, and the utmost Complaisance in their Behaviour. They preserved an Ease, Serenity, and outward Benevolence in all their Deportment; which extended even to those few, who dissented from the Majority, and complain'd of their Management. But as soon as Things took another Turn; when the Clouds began to gather, and the Billows to rise about them; when most People were seized with a Pannick.

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and their late Obsequiousness was converted into Murmurs and Discontent ; then their Behaviour was seen immediately to change ; and from the most obliging, humble and condescending Creatures in the World, they have grown the most peevish, captious, and dogmatical Wretches upon the Face of the Earth ; for having been habituated, from the Applause and Adulation, which were formerly paid them, to believe themselves *infallible* in all their Proceedings, they now looked on the least Contradiction or Opposition, as a personal Affront to their Understandings, proceeding from some personal Resentment, and a manifest Outrage on their Grandeur and Authority.

We meet with an Instance, in some Respects, of this sort in *Wesson*, Earl of PORTLAND, who was *Lord High Treasurer* in the Reign of that unhappy Prince King *Charles I.* — My Lord *Clarendon* informs us, that this *great Man* “ did appear, on the
“ sudden, wonderfully elated, and so far threw off his old
“ Affectation to *please some very much*, and to *dis-*
“ *please none*, in which Art he had excell'd, that in a
“ few Months after the *Duke of Buckingham's* Death,
“ he found himself to succeed him in the *publick Dis-*
“ *pleasure*, and in the Malice of his Enemies, with-
“ out succeeding him in his *Credit* at Court, or in
“ the Affection of any *considerable Dependants* ; and
“ yet, though he was not superior to all other Men
“ in the *Affection*, or rather *Resignation* of the King,
“ so that he might dispense Favours or Disfavours ac-
“ cording to his own Election, he had a full Share in
“ his Master's Esteem ; who looked upon him as a
“ wise and able Servant, and worthy of the Trust
“ he reposed in him ; and received no other Advice
“ in the large Business of his *Revenue* ; nor was any
“ Man so much his *Superior*, as to be able to lessen
“ him in the King's Affection by his Power. So that
“ he was in a Post, in which he might have found
“ much Ease and Delight, *if he could have contained*
“ *himself*

“ *himself within the Verge of his own Province ;*
 “ *which was large enough, and of such Extent, that*
 “ *he might, at the same Time, have drawn a great*
 “ *Dependance upon him of very considerable Men,*
 “ *and appeared a very useful and profitable Minister*
 “ *to the King ; whose Revenue had been very loosely*
 “ *managed during the late Years ; and might, by In-*
 “ *dustry, and Order, have been easily improved. And*
 “ *no Man better understood what Method was neces-*
 “ *sary towards that good Husbandry than He.*

“ *But I know not by what Frowardness in his Stars,*
 “ *he took more Pains in examining and enquiring in-*
 “ *to other Mens Offices, than in the Discharge of his*
 “ *own ; and not so much Joy in what He had, as*
 “ *Trouble and Agony in what He had not. The*
 “ *Truth is, He had so vehement a Desire to be the*
 “ *sole Favourite, that he had no relish of the Power*
 “ *he had — He tells us afterwards, that he found*
 “ *the Number of his Enemies exceedingly encreased,*
 “ *and others to be less eager in the Pursuit of his*
 “ *Friendship, and every Day discovered some Infr-*
 “ *mities in him ; which, being before known to few,*
 “ *and not taken Notice of, did now expose him to*
 “ *publick Reproach and to private Animosities. And*
 “ *even his Vices admitted those Contradictions in*
 “ *them, that he could hardly enjoy the pleasant Fruit*
 “ *of any of them.*

“ *No Man, says He, had greater Ambition to*
 “ *make his Family great, or stronger Designs to leave*
 “ *a great Fortune to it — That, in order to do this,*
 “ *he had avowedly and sowerly crossed the Pretences*
 “ *of other Men, and restrained the King's Bounty*
 “ *from being exercised almost to any — which,*
 “ *from the Duke's Death, ran in narrower Channels,*
 “ *and never so much over-flowed as toward Himself,*
 “ *who stopped the Current to other Men”.*

The noble Historian goes on thus. “ *He was of*
 “ *an imperious Nature, and nothing wary in disobl'g-*

“ing and provoking other Men; and had *too much*
“*Courage* in offending and incensing them; but, af-
“ter having offended them, he was of so unhappy a
“*feminine Temper*, that he was always in a terrible
“*Fright* and *Apprehension* of them.

And just after, He says, “That he quickly lost the
“Character of a *bold, stout* and *magnanimous Man*;
“which he had been long reputed to be in *worse*
“*Times*; and, in his most prosperous Season, fell
“under the Reproach of being a Man of *big Looks*,
“and of a *mean* and *abject Spirit*.

“To conclude; all the Honours the King con-
“ferr’d upon him (as he made him a Baron, then an
“Earl, and *Knight of the Garter*) could not make
“him think himself *great enough*. Nor could all the
“*King’s Bounties*, nor his own *large Accessions* raise
“a Fortune to his *Heir*; but after *six* or *eight* Years
“spent in *outward Opulency*, and inward Murmur
“and Trouble that it *was not greater*; after vast
“Sums of Money, and great Wealth gotten, and ra-
“ther consumed than enjoyed; without any Sense or
“Delight in so great Prosperity, with the Agony that
“it was *no greater*; he dy’d *unlamented by any*; bit-
“terly mentioned by most, who never pretended to
“love him; and severely censured and complained of
“by Those, who expected *most* from him, and de-
“served *best* of him; and left a *numerous Family*,
“which was, in a short Time, *worn out*, and yet
“*out-lived* the Fortune that he left behind him.

I am sensible, that I have, in some Measure, de-
parted from the first Design of this Paper, which was
to expose the Absurdity and Folly of *Passion* and *Vebe-*
ment in publick Ministers. But there is something
so particular and remarkable in the Character of this
great Man, that I could not avoid the Opportunity of
being somewhat circumstantial in my Relation of it
from so masterly an Hand. It cannot however be sug-
gested, with any Reason, that I dwelt so long upon it,

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in order to draw any *invidious Parallel*; (which has been, of late, objected against some of us *political Writers*) because I know no Man at present in being, in whom *all* these Circumstances can be supposed to concur. To put an End therefore to this Digression, without any Apology, I will humbly beg Leave just to observe, that such an haughty, blustering and imperious Behaviour is in no Place more unbecoming than in a *popular Assembly*; where all the Members, considered as such, are equal to one another, however their Circumstances may differ in other Respects, as to Wealth, Favour, Titles or Power. It is therefore highly derogatory to the Honour and Privilege of such an *Assembly* for any Person to presume so far on any *extraneous Superiority*, as to insult, menace, and brow-beat the rest of his Brethren; which discovers a strong Intimation that he thinks his dictatorial Voice should always be uncontradicted and definitive; and that they meet there together in order to jump unanimously into all his Opinions; to gratify his Pride only; and facilitate his Designs.

Caius Fabius, the famous *Roman Tribune*, was a Man of this hot, insolent and ungovernable Temper; but it ought to be considered, in his Excuse, that in him it was a *natural Infirmary*; that He was sensible of it himself; was ashamed of it; and endeavoured, by all Methods, to keep it under; as appears by the following Story, recorded by *Plutarch*.

This Author tells us, in the Lives of those two celebrated Brothers, *Tiberius* and *Caius*, "That the
"one was *smooth* and *sedate*; the other *rough* and
"passionate; even to such a Degree, that often, in
"the midst of his Orations, he was so much hurried
"away by his *Passion*, even against his own Will,
"that he descended to give ill Language, and strained
"his Voice in such a Manner, that he could not proceed in his Speech. For a Remedy to this Excess,
"He made use of an ingenious Servant, one *Licinius*

“ by Name, who stood constantly behind him with
 “ a *Pitch-pipe*, or musical Instrument to regulate his
 “ Voice by ; and whenever he perceived his Master’s
 “ Tone alter, and grow harsh with Anger, he breath-
 “ ed a soft Note with his *Pipe* ; at the hearing of
 “ which, *Caius* immediately bated the Vehemence
 “ of his *Passion* and *Voice* ; grew mild ; and was easily
 “ recalled to Temper.

I have often lamented that no Author has thought fit to give us a particular Description of this curious Instrument, for the Instruction and Use of Posterity ; and as often wonder’d that none of our ingenious *Mathematical Instrument-makers* have attempted something of that Nature. I am sure it would amply reward all their Pains and Labours ; especially if they could obtain a *Patent* for the sole making and vending thereof ; which could not certainly be deny’d to the Reviver of so useful a Machine in an Age, which seems to stand in great Need of it. But till that is done, I would humbly recommend it to be considered, whether the *Opera* might not be made useful to the State, by placing the celebrated Sig. *Sinesino* and other *Italian Artists* behind some of our *popular Orators*, in order to soften and modulate the Tone of their Voice, and thereby preserve a *Moderation* and *Decency* in our public Debates. A.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

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—quantum mutatus ab ILLO ! Virgil.

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